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10/596,924	06/29/2006	Michel Delahaigue	85CF166212	2376
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General Electric Company Global Patent Operation 187 Danbury Road, Suite 204 Wilton, CT 06897-4122			WRIGHT, BRYAN F	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/596,924

Applicant(s)

DELAHAIGUE ET AL.

Examiner

BRYAN WRIGHT

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on June 29, 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/29/2006
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is action in response to application June 29, 2006. Claims (1-22) are pending.

Priority

2. Applicant's claim for benefit of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a) - (d) is acknowledged.

The application is filed on June 29, 2006 but is a 371 case of PCT/US04/42954 application filed 12/22/2004 and has a foreign priority application FRANCE 0315626 filed on 12/31/2003.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant's usage of the statement, "**in a manner known per se**" renders the claim vague and indefinite and further does not provide to one of ordinary skill in the art a clear and concise limitation. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-8 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Uzo (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0061170 (cited from IDS)).

5. As to claim 1, Uzo teaches a **computer system, comprising: a network interface, capable of initializing a connection with a remote station, a memory manager, capable of creating and maintaining a memory space dedicated to a remote station, for the exchange of data between the system and that remote station, and a session manager** (i.e., ...teaches consumers and merchants use computing devices connected to a network, such as the Internet in a wired or wireless manner, wherein the consumer connects to a clearing server device to purchase a token [par. 25]), **reacting to a connection initialization with successful identification by opening a remote station session , associated with a single token and a memory space dedicated to the remote station in the memory manager** (i.e., ... teaches If authentication is successful, the clearing server then authenticates the token id/PIN number combination received and identifies the token 68 associated with those numbers [par. 141]), **the data exchanges with the remote station in the course of a session being conditioned by the presence of the associated token** [fig. 4b].

6. As to claim 2, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the memory manager is set up to define the said memory space (i.e., record) dedicated as software object, associated with the identifier and with the single token (i.e., ... teaches Consumer secret information records comprising the following fields: a consumer ID; a token ID, [par 55]).**

7. As to claim 3, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that it includes a container capable of storing a correspondence between software objects and the single tokens assigned to them [fig 3].**

8. As to claim 4, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up, after successful identification, to retrieve a software object corresponding to that identification and, if it exists, to offer the remote station, as first exchange with token (i.e., ... teaches If authentication is successful, the clearing server then authenticates the token id/PIN number combination received and identifies the token 68 associated with those numbers [par. 141]), the option of resuming a task on that software object or of abandoning it in order to create a new one associated with a new task (i.e., ...teaches discontinues making purchases at the selected merchant, the merchant returns the updated token to the clearing server. ... teaches a new key is necessary to make the next purchase [abstract])**

9. As to claim 5, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the single token is obtained by concatenation of the result of a random function on the current date, current time and a random value** (i.e., ... teaches a random number used to generate an update key; a requesting merchant ID; a request time; request date; fractional token data; a database alias; a token hash value; an encryption key code; an IP address and other data [par. 56]).

10. As to claim 6, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the vendor's session manager is set up to offer a remote station a data entry function** (i.e., ... teaches a request for purchase of goods and services to a merchant, the goods and/or services being selected from these listed together with their price quotes on the merchant's computer or website connected to a network, such as the Internet [abstract]), **an entered data validation function and at least one post-processing function after validated entry** [fig. 6].

11. As to claim 7, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that it includes a remote entry application** (i.e., list), **offered to the remote station** (i.e., ... teaches a request for purchase of goods and services to a merchant, the goods and/or services being selected from these listed together with their price quotes on the merchant's computer or website connected to a network, such as the Internet.[abstract]), **the dedicated memory space being allocated to the temporary storage of entered data awaiting validation** (i.e., ... teaches the token being

previously purchased by the consumer and residing on a clearing server device. ... teaches the update key is used as an authorization to modify the value of the token, i.e., to decrement and to increment [abstract]).

12. As to claim 8, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the data entered are invoice data submitted remotely to a factoring entity by a remote vendor station** (i.e., ... teaches mechanisms are available for communicating saved transaction data to the clearing server via alternative data paths [par. 134]).

13. As to claim 22, Uzo teaches a **computer system, including a factoring services provider interconnected on a wide-area network with one or more vendor stations** (i.e., ... teaches clearing server does not have to reside on a single computing device but may reside on multiple computing devices across a local area network (LAN) or wide area network (WAN) [par 176]), **characterized in that the factoring services provider embraces a function of identification of a vendor on reception of a vendor identifier** (i.e., ... teaches static merchant information records comprising the following fields: a merchant ID [par. 61]), **a first function of creation of a vendor object** (i.e., ... teaches merchant information record [par. 61]), **a vendor object including a vendor identifier** (i.e., ... teaches static merchant information records comprising the following fields: a merchant ID [par. 61]), **a second function of creation of a single token** [abstract], a function of allocation of a token created for a vendor object, a vendor object to which a token defining a vendor session is allocated, a

container for storing each vendor object and its allocated token (i.e., ... teaches merchant database is accessed when the clearing server polls the merchant to retrieve (i.e. upload) a token with its transaction records [par. 59]), **a vendor identifier search function in the vendor objects of the container** (i.e., ... teaches clearing server polls the merchant 14 to retrieve (i.e. upload) a token with its transaction records [par. 59]), **an exchange function between at least the service provider and the vendor station or stations in order to use the token on information exchanges during the vendor session** [fig. 4b], **the token making it possible to establish the current state of the session** (i.e., ... teaches It also performs frequent intermittent uploads of token and token transaction records to the clearing server. ... teaches once an upload of a token is received, the clearing server modifies its database to show that the token 68 is not leased out, so new token requests can be serviced without the need to request uploads [par. 172]), **the service provider being capable of calling the identification function** [fig. 6], **the second creation function and the search function on demand of a vendor in order to open a vendor session** [par. 72], **capable of calling either the first creation function and the allocation function or the allocation function alone depending at least on the result of the search function** [par. 72], and **capable of also calling the exchange function** [par. 72].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

14. Claims 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uzo in view of Neely et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0077977 and Neely hereinafter).

5. As to claims 9, the system disclosed by Uzo shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed in the paragraphs above), it fails to disclose:

A computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up to offer a remote vendor station an invoice entry function, an entered invoice validation function for submission to factoring, a credit approval application function on invoices submitted to factoring and an account consulting function at the factor's (claim 9).

A computer system characterized in that in invoice entry mode the session manager operates by sending the remote station an entry form, with wait for a return of the completed form, accompanied each time by the corresponding single token (claim 10).

However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Uzo as introduced by Neely. Neely discloses:

A computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up to offer a remote vendor station an invoice entry function, an entered invoice validation function for submission to factoring (for purposes of a invoice entry Neely provides invoice entry capability through a invoice web site such that a summary agent may set up a offer to a customer via the invoice web site [par. 62]), **a credit approval application function on invoices submitted to factoring and an account consulting function at the factor's** (for purposes of credit approval Neely provides the capability of pr-authorized credit [par 121] ... for purposes of account consulting Neely provides customer account access for which customers can routinely consult there accounts [abstract] (claim 9)).

A computer system characterized in that in invoice entry mode the session manager operates by sending the remote station an entry form, with wait for a return of the completed form (for purposes of entry form Neely provides electronic data form for capturing information [par. 146]), **accompanied each**

time by the corresponding single token (for purpose of a token association Neely provides the association of a security token as part of a submission validation process [par. 97]) (claim 10).

Therefore, given the teachings of Neely, a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have recognized the desirability and advantage of modifying Uzo by employing the well known features of secure data processing encompassing invoicing, electronic forms and account consulting disclosed above by Neely, for which secure data transmission will be enhanced [abstract].

15. As to claim 11, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up at least to make the function of validation of invoices entered for submission to factoring subject to a certification based on a personal code (PIN) by the qualified operator on the vendor side** (i.e., .. teaches a merchant "reads" the unique reference number on the card, which is the same as the token id, and then prompts the consumer to enter the PIN number [par. 91]).

16. As to claim 12, Uzo teaches a **computer system set up as an exchange server cooperating with an internal server, characterized in that the exchange server is set up to transmit the validated entries to the internal server** (i.e., ... teaches mechanisms are available for communicating saved transaction data to the

clearing server via alternative data paths [par. 134]), **which ensures the keeping of accounts and related operations selectively for each vendor entity** [fig.,. 1].

17. As to claim 13, Uzo teaches a **computer system characterized in that final validation is dependent on the sending of another document signed by the vendor via a means other than the wide-area network** (i.e., ... teaches clearing server transmits sends a digital copy it's signature [par. 66])

5. As to claims 14 and 15, the system disclosed by Uzo shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed in the paragraphs above), it fails to disclose:

A computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up also to offer a remote vendor station a guarantee application function on entered invoices (claim 14).

A computer system characterized in that it includes a generator of a native printing file, with authentic font printing, drawn from a coherent set of data present in the internal server, and a document manager capable of printing account-oriented data from that native file in different formats (claim 15).

However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Uzo as introduced by Neely. Neely discloses:

A computer system characterized in that the session manager is set up also to offer a remote vendor station a guarantee application function on entered invoices (for purposes of invoice application function Neely provides a invoice web site [par. 62]) (claim 14).

A computer system characterized in that it includes a generator of a native printing file, with authentic font printing, drawn from a coherent set of data present in the internal server, and a document manager capable of printing account-oriented data from that native file in different formats (for purpose of generating a print file for transmission to a print facility Neely provides the capability to create a legacy data associated with the invoice for which is sent to a print facility [par. 148]) (claim 15).

Therefore, given the teachings of Neely, a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have recognized the desirability and advantage of modifying Uzo by employing the well known features of invoice function and file printing disclosed above by Neely, for which secure data transmission will be enhanced [par. 148].

18. Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uzo in view Neely as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of Yeung et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0093556 and Yeung hereinafter).

5. As to claims 16-19, the system disclosed by Uzo in view of Neely shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed in the paragraphs above), it fails to disclose:

A computer system characterized in that the document manager comprises: a native file processor, capable of reacting to a document identifier by selecting a corresponding portion of the native file, and at least two printing/display constructors, capable of cooperating with the native file accessor in order to construct two display/printing files, corresponding to the same printable content, those two display/printing constructors operating on different file formats, which makes it possible to use, internally and at the vendors, documents directly comparable, printed and/or on the screen (claim 16)

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in PDF format (claim 17).

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in image file format (claim 18).

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in an exchange file format, capable of being transmitted for mass printing (claim 19)

However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Uzo in view of Neely as introduced by Yeung. Yeung discloses:

A computer system characterized in that the document manager comprises: a native file processor, capable of reacting to a document identifier by selecting a corresponding portion of the native file, and at least two printing/display constructors (for purposes of a document manager Yeung provides document manager capable of using a document id for a native file [fig. 4] ... for purposes of two printing/display constructors Yeung provides the capability to handle both pdf an image format [par. 87 and par. 152], **capable of cooperating with the native file accessor in order to construct two display/printing files** (for purposes of cooperating with a native file Yeung provides a thick client application for routing the native file [par. 93]), **corresponding to the same printable content, those two display/printing constructors operating on different file formats, which makes it possible to use, internally and at the vendors, documents directly comparable, printed and/or on the screen (claim 16)** (for purposes of handling printing documents in different file format Yeung provides the capability to convert files saved in

different format thus allowing printing multiple format documents to be performed [par. 174])

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in PDF format (claim 17) (for purposes of providing PDF format handling Yeung provides the capability to convert files into pdf format [par. 87]).

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in image file format (claim 18) (for purpose of providing image format handling Yeung provides the capability to convert files into image format [par. 152]).

A computer system characterized in that the display/printing constructors include a display/printing constructor operating in an exchange file format, capable of being transmitted for mass printing. (claim 19) (for purpose of mass printing Yeung provides batch print job processing [fig. 4])

Therefore, given the teachings of Yeung, a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have recognized the desirability and advantage of modifying Uzo in view of Neely by employing the well known features of a document print

manager disclosed above by Yeung, for which document management will be enhanced [fig. 4].

19. Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neely in view of Uzo.

20. As to claim 20, Neely teaches a **computer system, including a factoring server, capable of managing vendor accounts established on the basis of invoices sent by each vendor to the factor** (i.e., ... teaches the summary agent portal could be authorized to complete the enrollment setup between the customer and invoicer as the customer's agent [par. 54], **in accordance with collections of invoices from buyers** (i.e., ... teaches the summary agent and invoicer, the invoicer could also specify relevant URLs for the customer to view detailed invoice information [par. 55], **in a manner known per se, as well as an outward applications server** (i.e., .. teaches application server [fig. 106]), **for remote stations, characterized in that the outward applications server is set up to work in a wide-area network with one or more remote vendor stations and to respond to a vendor identifier for an information entry request** (claim 114), **sending an entry application from the vendor associated with the token to a response server capable of returning the entry form associated with the token** (i.e., .. teaches sending electronic data form for capturing information [par. 146]),

However Neely does not teach:

by operating a request processing application involving: verifying identification of the vendor , starting a vendor session by creation of o vendor object and of a single token allocated to that vendor object, the token identifying the progress of the vendor session and the vendor object containing the count of the session up to the current state of progress, sending an entry application from the vendor associated with the token to a response server capable of returning the entry form associated with the token, recording the entered information received on return with the, verifying the validation of that information by the vendor and then certification through a personal code (PIN] of an entity authorized to certify for that vendor.

However, these features are well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Neely as introduced by Uzo. Uzo discloses:

by operating a request processing application (for purposes of request processing Uzo provides the capability to make a selection from a list such that the selection initiates the processing [abstract]), **involving: verifying identification of the vendor** (for purposes of identifying a vendor Uzo provides a data format with a designated merchant id field [fig. 4a]), **starting a vendor session by creation of o vendor object and of a single token allocated to that vendor object** (for purposes of session creation Uzo provides session transaction capability [par. 72] ... for purpose of

token allocation Uzo provides token information records comprising a token ID and a requesting merchant ID [par. 56]), **the token identifying the progress of the vendor session and the vendor object containing the count of the session up to the current state of progress** (for purpose of state identification Uzo provides the capability to indicate the state of the transaction using the a transaction record associated with a token [172], **recording the entered information received on return with the token** (for purposes of recoding information Uzo provides a clearing server to retrieve the token and its transaction record from the first merchant, update its own database records [par. 30]), **verifying the validation of that information by the vendor** (for purposes of information validation Uzo provides validation procedures outline in [fig. 4a]), **and then certification through a personal code (PIN) of an entity authorized to certify for that vendor** (for purposes of PIN usage UZO provides a merchant "reads" the unique reference number on the card, which is the same as the token id, and then prompts the consumer to enter the PIN number [par. 91]).

Therefore, given the teachings of Uzo, a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have recognized the desirability and advantage of modifying Neely by employing the well known features of request processing disclosed above by Uzo, for which secure data transmission will be enhanced [par. 91].

21. As to claim 21, Neely teaches a **computer system characterized in that the said request processing application is further capable of generating a printing file**

provided to be returned as document signed by the vendor (i.e., teaches generating legacy data associated with the invoice for which is sent to a print facility [par. 148] Those skilled in the art would recognize inherent to the legacy data would be dates, request logs, and signatures of all invoice transaction).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRYAN WRIGHT whose telephone number is (571)270-3826. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, AYAZ Sheikh can be reached on (571)272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/BRYAN WRIGHT/
Examiner, Art Unit 2131*

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